E/2018/46-E/C.20/2018/19

United Nations

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Report on the eight session (1–3 August 2018)

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Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Report on the eighth session
(1–3 August 2018)

United Nations • New York, 2018

Note

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Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft decision for adoption by the Council

1. The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its eighth session and provisional agenda and dates for the ninth session of the Committee

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its eighth session (E/2018/46);

(b) Decides that the ninth session of the Committee of Experts shall be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 7 to 9 August 2019;

(c) Approves the provisional agenda and documentation for the ninth session of the Committee of Experts as set out below:

Provisional agenda for the ninth session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Strengthening geospatial information management.
4. Contribution of regional committees and thematic groups to the global geospatial information agenda.
5. Integrated Geospatial Information Framework.
6. Global geodetic reference frame.
7. Geospatial information for sustainable development.
8. Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information.
9. Application of geospatial information related to land administration and management.
10. Marine geospatial information.
11. Geospatial information and services for disasters.
12. Legal and policy frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data.
13. Global fundamental geospatial data themes.
14. National institutional arrangements in global geospatial information management.

15. Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community.

16. Collaboration with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

17. Review of United Nations activities in geospatial information management.

18. Programme management report.

19. Provisional agenda and dates for the tenth session of the Committee of Experts.

20. Report of the Committee of Experts on its ninth session.

B. Decisions brought to the attention of the Council

2. The following decisions adopted by the Committee of Experts are brought to the attention of the Council:

Decision 8/101
Strengthening geospatial information management

The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Secretariat (see E/C.20/2018/4), as well as the efforts of the Secretariat and the expanded Bureau of the Committee in continuing to take practical and strategic action to strengthen geospatial information management for Member States in line with the broadened mandate of the Committee of Experts pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2016/27 of 27 July 2016;

(b) Also welcomed the extrabudgetary resources provided to support efforts to improve and strengthen national geospatial information capacity-building in developing countries, and in this regard expressed its appreciation for the valuable and continuing trust fund contributions of China, the contribution of the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association to support capacity development initiatives and the assistance provided at the regional level, such as that by Mexico for the Caribbean;

(c) Noted the updated strategic framework for the period 2018–2022 and the suggestions to ensure that the integrated geospatial information framework remained aligned with the strategic framework, as a reference point for coordinating, harmonizing and prioritizing the work programmes and activities of the Committee of Experts;

(d) Commended the initiative of the Statistics Division and Esri with regard to the research exercise conducted in a number of pilot countries aimed at establishing a federated information system of national and global data hubs for the Sustainable Development Goals, at facilitating collaborative data integration and interoperability and at improving data flows and reporting from the national to global levels, and encouraged national geospatial information authorities and national statistical offices to continue to collaborate and develop the valuable initiative further;

(e) Agreed to take a more prominent and strategic leadership role in guiding the geospatial aspects of the federated information system with regard to the Sustainable Development Goals, taking into account the existing work

achieved in national spatial data infrastructures and the need for flexibility in the development of geospatial information at the national level;

(f) Requested that the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management regional committees continue to explore practical steps towards achieving greater coordination and collaboration among themselves, as well as with the Committee of Experts, the thematic networks, partner organizations, such as the Group on Earth Observations and EuroGeographics, and in particular the regional commissions of the United Nations system;

(g) Expressed its continued commitment and support for the forthcoming United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress, to be convened in Deqing, China, in November 2018, as a milestone global event that would continue to enhance the coherence and coordination of global geospatial information for Member States;

(h) Welcomed the convening, in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in April 2020, of the sixth High-level Forum on Global Geospatial Information Management, to be hosted by the Ordnance Survey of Great Britain on behalf of the United Kingdom;

(i) Noted with appreciation the leading role of the United Kingdom, through the Ordnance Survey, in efforts to revise the report on future trends in geospatial information management over the next 18 months, taking into account new and emerging technologies, and welcomed the offers by Member States to contribute towards updating the report;

(j) Acknowledged the urgent need to further mobilize extrabudgetary resources for the operations of the Committee of Experts and the Secretariat and to support and sustain actual long-term capacity and capability development, including to cover the cost of participation by developing countries in the annual sessions of the Committee.

Decision 8/102
Contribution of regional committees and thematic groups to the global geospatial information agenda

The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Secretariat (see E/C.20/2018/5), and commended the progress made by the five United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management regional committees in contributing to the global geospatial information agenda, including in convening their annual plenary meetings during the intersessional period and in conducting international thematic technical seminars and workshops with a view to achieving the objectives of the Committee of Experts vis-à-vis the needs of Member States;

(b) Expressed its appreciation for the continuing and valuable contributions of the three United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management networks to the programme of work of the Committee of Experts, in particular for supporting the Subcommittee on Geodesy and expert and working groups of the Committee, and for expanding their affiliations and knowledge within the regional committee processes;

(c) Noted the work and contribution of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Academic Network to adjusting cadastral template 2.0, an information and reference database tool on land registration systems used in over 50 countries around the world, in order to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

(d) Welcomed the continuing efforts made towards ensuring greater coordination among the activities of the Committee of Experts, the five regional committees, the thematic networks and the regional commissions of the United Nations system, and in this regard emphasized the importance of sharing guides, framework standards and data, in particular in support of the implementation of the Goals, and of alignment with the integrated geospatial information framework as a mechanism that can serve to focus those efforts for the benefit of Member States;

(e) Noted with appreciation that the plenary meetings of the five regional committees will be convened during the next intersessional period, and encouraged all Member States and stakeholders to participate in and contribute to the meetings as appropriate;

(f) Urged Member States to consider tangible ideas, strategies and mechanisms, including funding sources and collaborative partnerships, that the Committee of Experts might leverage in order to ensure the availability of adequate resources to foster the sustained engagement of developing Member States and their participation to the fullest extent possible in regional meetings.

Decision 8/103
Global geodetic reference frame

The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Subcommittee on Geodesy (see E/C.20/2018/6), and congratulated the Co-Chairs of the Subcommittee for their leadership in advancing the elaboration of mechanisms and possible solutions to organizing, strengthening and sustaining the global geodetic reference frame;

(b) Endorsed the revised terms of reference for the Subcommittee in order to provide clearer modalities and working procedures, subject to minor amendments proposed by Member States;

(c) Commended the Subcommittee on the considerable progress made in the completion of the road map implementation plan, and endorsed the plan as the third step in the process of improving the sustainability and enhancing the quality of the global geodetic reference frame;

(d) Noted with interest the initial work and progress made on the position paper on governance and its use as a detailed discussion paper for addressing the need to fill the current gaps in governance arrangements for the global geodetic reference frame, including the possible creation of a convention on geodesy and mechanisms for the financial sustainability of the reference frame through a United Nations trust fund;

(e) Also noted that, given the difficulty in developing an appropriate governance structure, the position paper on governance would serve as an aspirational tool for engaging commitment from Member States in the medium to long term and therefore required careful consideration, in particular with regard to the different options available and the need for broad consultation and agreement in order to better understand the importance of the work involved;

(f) Suggested that the consultations on the establishment of an international organization and a convention on geodesy and the consultations on associated financial resources should take into consideration the wider mandate, scope and modalities of the Committee of Experts and should be guided by Member States;

(g) Requested that the Subcommittee initiate and undertake broad and detailed consultations on the position paper on governance during the intersessional period and provide an update to the Committee of Experts at its next session in 2019;

(h) Noted that the next meeting of the Subcommittee would be convened on the margins of the United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress to be held in Deqing, China, in November 2018, and encouraged broader participation in the activities of the Subcommittee, particularly from African countries.

Decision 8/104
Determination of global fundamental geospatial data themes

The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe (see E/C.20/2018/7), prepared on behalf of the working group on global fundamental geospatial data themes, and commended the Regional Committee and the working group for their efforts to support the advancement of the 14 global fundamental geospatial data themes;

(b) Acknowledged the contributions of the working group, the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management regional committees, the Subcommittee on Geodesy and the expert and working groups of the Committee of Experts, as inputs into the global review to create theme descriptions, including to indicate the Sustainable Development Goals supported by the 14 data themes;

(c) Commended the working group for raising awareness of the 14 data themes through its promotion, marketing and communication efforts, including the development of theme icons as permanent references for all the working groups of the Committee of Experts and the development of dedicated story maps piloted at international workshops held in Addis Ababa in April and during the plenary meeting of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe held in Belgium in June;

(d) Welcomed the offer of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe to work with the Secretariat and other groups to continue to promote, and raise awareness of the 14 data themes across the global geospatial information and statistical community, the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management regional committees and the wider United Nations system and within the broader global geospatial ecosystem, and noted the need for the themes to remain technical in nature so as to not raise political concerns;

(e) Noted the suggestions to describe the data themes in greater non-technical detail so that they can be harmonized at the national and regional levels and to ensure easier national implementation, and in this regard suggested that the Committee of Experts consider the possible formulation, implementation and adoption of standards for the 14 data themes;

(f) Acknowledged the alignment of the 14 data themes with the integrated geospatial information framework, and encouraged the inclusion of the themes in the development of geospatial information activities at the national level.

Decision 8/105
Trends in national institutional arrangements in global geospatial information management

The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:

(a) Welcomed the report of the working group on trends in national institutional arrangements (see E/C.20/2018/8), and noted that the working group was seeking to refocus and realign its current activity of work with the interests and requirements of Member States regarding national institutional arrangements;

(b) Noted that the work plan for the period 2018–2019 contained one major task, namely, the preparation of an easy-to-understand guide that would elaborate on each of the seven structural and six managerial instruments in the context of geospatial information management, on the basis of the framework set out in the report entitled "National institutional arrangements: instruments, principles and guidelines";

(c) Requested that the working group coordinate and integrate into its workplan the broader activities of the Committee of Experts, including with regard to the integrated geospatial information framework and the compendium on the licensing of geospatial information, and that the Bureau and the working group collaborate on the organization of future work.

Decision 8/106
Legal and policy frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data

The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:

(a) Welcomed the report of the working group on legal and policy frameworks for geospatial information management (see E/C.20/2018/9), and supported the working group's workplan for the biennium 2018–2019, with the focus on systematically addressing complex legal and policy issues in geospatial information management;

(b) Noted that the working group sought to have broad expertise and geographic representation in its composition, including from diverse stakeholders, and in this regard welcomed the interest expressed by Member States in participating in the working group;

(c) Commended the working group on its activities and significant progress made, including to improve the capacity to address legal and policy matters, and on having convened two international workshops and one mini-workshop that facilitated regional and subregional learning and capacity development;

(d) Applauded the working group for its efforts, including on initiating a global consultation process that allowed for the finalization and endorsement of the compendium on the licensing of geospatial information, as contained in its report;

(e) Noted that the compendium was a comprehensive document, which could help Member States to understand the legal and policy considerations that impact the collection, use, storage and dissemination of geospatial information and could serve as a foundation document for several other initiatives, including developing good practices in the future;

(f) Noted the suggestion that the compendium, currently only available in English, be translated in order to facilitate a better understanding by Member States with regard to addressing legal and policy matters in geospatial information management, and in this regard appreciated the offers to translate the compendium;

(g) Requested that the working group contribute its subject matter expertise towards the preparation and development of the strategic pathway on legal and policy matters in the integrated geospatial information framework, and in this regard welcomed the support offered by Member States.

Decision 8/107
Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community.

The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:

(a) Welcomed the report prepared jointly by the Open Geospatial Consortium, technical committee 211 of the International Organization for Standardization and the International Hydrographic Organization (see E/C.20/2018/10), and expressed its appreciation to the three standards development organizations for their continuing support and valuable work;

(b) Commended the contributions made by the three standards development organizations, including the proposed establishment of the statistical domain working group of the Open Geospatial Consortium, their support of the international standard on land administration and their focus on developing the S-100 suite of geographic standards, including the S-121 standard, and on the standard for classifications systems for land cover;

(c) Appreciated the revision of the report entitled "A guide to the role of standards in geospatial information management and its companion document on standards recommendations by tier, and commended the three standards development organizations for their efforts and resources in updating the documents following wide international consultations with Member States and the professional geospatial information community;

(d) Encouraged the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management regional committees and thematic groups to continue to raise awareness about and engage in the promotion of internationally agreed standards, including the S-121 standard of the International Hydrographic Organization;

(e) Encouraged Member States to participate in the proposed statistical domain working group and in the revision of the International Organization for Standardization standard 19152 (land administration domain model), and in this regard addressed the desire for broader engagement and involvement in order to facilitate interoperability of new standards and approaches.

Decision 8/108
Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information

The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (see E/C.20/2018/11), and noted the valuable progress being made to further elaborate, promote and disseminate the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework through principle task teams as a means to create, disseminate and utilize geospatially enabled statistics;

(b) Noted with appreciation the recently completed paper entitled "Global statistical geospatial framework: linking statistics and place", in which the Expert Group outlined the current status and plans, including case studies, for the further development of the Framework and its role in supporting the wide range of implementation and adoption activities already occurring within countries and across all regions;

(c) Supported the direction and six key areas of focus for the current activities of the Expert Group, including to enhance geospatial community engagement and understanding, further elaborate the five principles of the Framework and provide supporting material, work to enhance interoperability, promote and support implementation of the Framework, and work on statistical-geospatial integration and coordination, in particular pertaining to the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2020 round of population censuses;

(d) Welcomed the proposed establishment of the statistical domain working group of the Open Geospatial Consortium, and encouraged the Expert Group to work with the working group on the development of technical standards and related efforts, such as the discrete global grid system, and for both the statistical and geospatial communities to contribute to that work in support of the implementation of the Framework and to overcome technical interoperability challenges;

(e) Endorsed the short- and longer-term statistical-geospatial interoperability projects identified by the Expert Group, and encouraged Member States and other stakeholders, including standards experts, to participate in and contribute to those important elements of the programme of work of the Expert Group;

(f) Noted the balanced representation of geospatial and statistical experts in the workshop on the integration of geospatial and statistical standards, jointly convened by the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe and the Economic Commission for Europe in November 2017, and also noted that the interoperability projects recommended at the workshop reflected the increased and direct collaboration and partnership between the two professional communities;

(g) Acknowledged the broader need for geospatial and statistical integration in areas of relevance, including disaster- and climate-related statistics, and encouraged the Expert Group to consider establishing relationships with other relevant experts and processes in those important areas.

Decision 8/109
Application of geospatial information related to land administration and management

The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:

(a) Welcomed the report of the expert group on land administration and management (see E/C.20/2018/12) and its continuing efforts to advocate and raise awareness of the merits and benefits of effective and efficient land administration and management by formulating overarching policy guidance that could be referenced by Member States;

(b) Encouraged the expert group to consider, within the overarching policy guidance and with regard to effective and efficient land administration and management systems, the following issues: interoperability and sustainability, the application of geospatial information, the importance of

existing internationally agreed standards, historical records, and economic benefits and value;

(c) In that regard, requested that the expert group make use of appropriate globally accepted concepts and approaches, such as existing guidelines, best practices and standards, in order to effectively and efficiently link people to land, by documenting, recording and recognizing the relationships, in all their forms, that people have to land, and to secure land and property rights for all;

(d) Welcomed the next meeting of the Expert Group, which will be held in Deqing, China, on 26 and 29 September 2018 and hosted by the Ministry of Natural Resources of China, in Deqing, Zhejiang Province, China, and also welcomed the fact that it will be convened in conjunction with the international seminar on effective land administration to be held on 27 and 28 September 2018 at the same venue.

Decision 8/110
Geospatial information for sustainable development

The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:

(a) Welcomed the report of the working group on geospatial information of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (see E/C.20/2018/13), and noted the activities and significant progress made to ensure that the contribution of the global geospatial information community to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development remained relevant and rigorous, made the best possible use of existing initiatives, avoided duplication of efforts and was country-owned and country-led;

(b) Encouraged the working group to work effectively with the Subcommittee on Geodesy and the expert and working groups of the Committee of Experts to address the availability and accessibility of reliable and timely geospatial information to measure and monitor progress with regard to the Sustainable Development Goals;

(c) Supported the revised workplan of the working group for the biennium 2018–2019 with a focus on developing and providing guidance on the disaggregation of statistical data by geographic location and the aggregation of geocoded unit-level data, and on appropriate approaches to leveraging production-ready earth observation time series data made available by space agencies;

(d) Acknowledged that geospatial information and earth observations were not yet sufficiently leveraged in statistical production processes, requested that the working group continue to develop and provide expert advice and guidance on the application of geospatial information and its management in order to achieve national development priorities and the global targets of the Sustainable Development Goals and that the working group do so with a degree of urgency while ensuring the robustness of the advice and guidance provided;

(e) Noted the importance and crucial role of the working group in engaging with national Governments, welcomed the initiatives by Member States to develop national reporting platforms within a federated system of data hubs to gather and disseminate geospatial information for the Sustainable Development Goal indicators, and also welcomed the effort made by the working group to share such platforms, technology developments and data, including with regard to data-cube projects, experiences and good practices;

(f) Encouraged Member States to embark on initiatives to gain a comprehensive overview of the current situation and main issues related to data integration, including with statistical and global satellite data, for measuring and monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals, and in this regard considered the approaches initiated by the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe that focused on the regional cooperation between the geospatial and statistical communities seeking better integration processes for monitoring the global indicators;

(g) Supported the suggestion for centres of excellence to serve the demand for reliable, timely, accessible and sufficiently disaggregated data for Member States and to engage and coordinate with willing partner institutions, including the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Academic Network and Group on Earth Observations, in determining appropriate modalities to address the availability and accessibility of geospatial information for the production of Sustainable Development Goal indicators;

(h) Welcomed the fifth meeting of the working group, to be hosted by the Global Urban Observatory Unit of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) in Nairobi in December 2018.

Decision 8/111
Geospatial information and services for disasters

The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:

(a) Welcomed the report of the working group on geospatial information and services for disasters (see E/C.20/2018/14), and commended the work and efforts of the working group under the leadership of Jamaica and the Philippines;

(b) Commended the efforts of the working group with regard to the adoption of Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/14 of 2 July 2018 entitled "Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters" as a guide for Member States to ensure the availability and accessibility of quality geospatial information and services across all phases of disaster risk reduction and management;

(c) Noted that in the resolution, the Council invited Member States, their relevant government bodies, the United Nations system, international organizations, donors, the private sector, academia and non-governmental organizations with responsibility for disaster risk reduction and management, in accordance with their mandates, to adopt the Strategic Framework, recognizing that disaster risk reduction and management required the commitment and cooperation of all stakeholders;

(d) Commended the efforts of the working group in the development of a simple and practical assessment tool to assist Member States and the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management regional committees to evaluate and develop national implementation plans and to monitor and report on progress with regard to the implementation of the Strategic Framework;

(e) Emphasized that the use of geospatial information for managing all disasters was critically important, that geospatial information must be made available before disasters occurred and that the real-time integration of statistical and geospatial data to connect people with locations was required;

(f) Encouraged the working group to align its messages with the integrated geospatial information framework since disaster risk reduction and management was a critical beneficiary of national geospatial capability, and

noted that the Committee of Experts had an important role to play in enabling the development of those services for the benefit of society.

Decision 8/112
Marine geospatial information

The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:

(a) Welcomed the report of the working group on marine geospatial information (see E/C.20/2018/15), and commended the work and efforts of the working group in developing its work plan for the biennium 2018–2019, in which it addressed issues related to the availability, accessibility and application of marine geospatial information;

(b) Noted the activities and progress of the working group, including the preparation of a communication plan that described the benefits and value of marine geospatial information and addressed livelihoods and the well-being of communities, in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(c) Encouraged the working group to consider a use-case study on data availability and interoperability, and linkages to national geospatial information infrastructure that relates to inland water bodies and waterways, coastal zones, seas and oceans and to consider good practices and exemplars, including the Arctic spatial data infrastructure project;

(d) Requested the working group to take note and consider in its activities the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and related international initiatives, including the Seabed 2030 project;

(e) Noted that the working group encouraged and promoted the use of internationally agreed standards, such as the S-100 suite of geographic standards, including the S-121 standard, across all marine activities, and noted also that, in the developing specifications and standards, the working group engaged with standards development organizations;

(f) Encouraged the working group to remain focused, actively seek collaboration with other expert groups and working groups of the Committee of Experts, in order to avoid duplication, and ensure that the activities in this regard remained technical in nature;

(g) Noted that the working group would convene its first expert meeting, directly after the meeting of the working group on marine spatial data infrastructures of the International Hydrographic Organization, to be held in Busan, Republic of Korea, during the first week of March 2019.

Decision 8/113
National geospatial data and information systems

The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Secretariat prepared with the assistance of the World Bank (see E/C.20/2018/16) and their joint efforts to develop an integrated geospatial information framework as an overarching strategic policy guide for countries to reference when developing and strengthening their national and subnational geospatial information management systems and capabilities;

(b) Commended the Secretariat, the World Bank and the many actors within the Committee of Experts for contributing to the formulation of the

integrated geospatial information framework as an important and practical global guide, and supported the approach that the framework should serve as a living document, to be further refined as technologies, processes and knowledge evolved, and should comprise three parts as separate, but connected, documents;

(c) Adopted part 1, consisting of the overarching strategic framework, as a forward-looking document developed to provide overarching strategic messages in the context of an expansive, integrated national framework, focusing on the policy, perspectives and key elements of geospatial information, and in this regard supported the preparation of an illustrative summary as a high-level reference document aimed at enhancing geospatial awareness for policymakers and decision makers;

(d) Agreed in principle with the structure and main elements of part 2, consisting of the implementation guide, as the detailed document that will provide the specific guidance and actions to be taken in implementing the integrated geospatial information framework;

(e) Noted the valuable comments and suggestions of Member States and working groups of the Committee of Experts on further developing and improving the guide, which will be considered during a broad consultation period;

(f) Commended the efforts of the World Bank with regard to initiating pilots to develop part 3, which will consist of action plans at the country level, and to basing the action plans on actual examples and case studies from countries at both the national and subnational levels, and noted the requests to further strengthen and pilot the action plans in Africa and in the small island developing States, using the unique experiences gained to test different methodologies;

(g) Noted that the integrated geospatial information framework was intended to serve as an overarching guide for all of activities of the Committee of Experts, and in this regard agreed that the detailed implementation guide would need to directly reference and build upon the many current activities, guides and frameworks of the working groups of the Committee, as well as address national and regional spatial data infrastructure and related initiatives and frameworks, in particular in the context of each of the nine strategic pathways of the framework;

(h) Recognized the urgency of completing the implementation guide and action plans in a timely manner and supported the suggestion that the completed documents be provided to the Committee for adoption at its ninth session, in August 2019.

Decision 8/114
Strengthening collaboration with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:

(a) Welcomed the report of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (see E/C.20/2018/17), and commended the efforts of the Group of Experts to develop a mutually beneficial relationship with the Committee of Experts and to identify items for collaborative work;

(b) Encouraged further collaboration, and in this context welcomed the proposal to create a liaison group tasked with defining operational working relations and coordinating future collaborative work;

(c) Commended the cooperative activities of the Group of Experts, including with regard to the GeoNyms project of the Economic Commission for Africa, the work on the 14 global fundamental geospatial data themes and joint communication and training initiatives;

(d) Commended the Group of Experts for modernizing its operations in line with Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/2 of 10 November 2017 on the future organization and methods of work of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, and suggested that the collocation of the Group of Expert meetings be explored as a possible cost-saving and further integration measure.

Decision 8/115
Review of United Nations activities in geospatial information management

The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Secretariat on United Nations activities in to geospatial information management (see E/C.20/2018/18) and the update on efforts to establish the United Nations system network;

(b) Reaffirmed the need for entities of the United Nations system to work together effectively in the field of geospatial information management, with a view to streamlining activities, avoiding duplication, communicating coherently, avoiding unnecessary reporting burdens and supporting the Subcommittee of Geodesy, expert and working groups of the Committee of Experts, and to share knowledge, technology and resources provided by Member States;

(c) Consolidated the functions of the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group and the United Nations system network so as to have one efficient mechanism that would build upon the experiences of past coordination efforts, following the example of the statistical community;

(d) Endorsed the terms of reference of the United Nations system network as contained in annex I of the report of the Secretariat.

Decision 8/116
Programme management report

The Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management welcomed the oral report given by a representative of the Secretariat on the programme management of the Committee, to be developed through the newly created Global Geospatial Information Management Section in the Statistics Division.

Chapter II
Items for endorsement, discussion and decision

A. Strengthening geospatial information management

3. At its 1st meeting, on 1 August, the Committee of Experts considered agenda item 3. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on strengthening geospatial information management (E/C.20/2018/4),[1] which was introduced by the Interregional Adviser on Global Geospatial Information Management of the Statistics Division.

4. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Ireland (on behalf of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe), Mexico, India, Japan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Belgium, Denmark, Sweden, Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Antigua and Barbuda and Indonesia.

5. Also at the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

6. Also at the 1st meeting, statements were made by the representatives of EuroGeographics, the Group on Earth Observations and non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Council or having been invited to participate as observers at the eighth session of the Committee.

7. At the same meeting, the Interregional Adviser on Global Geospatial Information Management summarized the main points of the discussion.

Action taken by the Committee of Experts

8. At the 5th meeting, on 3 August, statements were made by the representatives of Germany, Austria and Belgium. Subsequently, the Committee of Experts adopted the draft decision, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 8/101).

B. Contribution of regional committees and thematic groups to the global geospatial information agenda

9. At its 2nd meeting, on 1 August, the Committee of Experts considered agenda item 4. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on the contribution of regional committees and thematic groups to the global geospatial information agenda (E/C.20/2018/5).[1] Introductory statements were made by the Chairs of the five regional committees and one of the Vice-Chairs, as well as by representatives of the three United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management networks.

10. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Barbados, Guatemala, Argentina, Egypt, Cameroon, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Italy, Ethiopia, Austria, Germany, Australia and Singapore.

11. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of ECLAC and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

12. Also at the 2nd meeting, the Interregional Adviser on Global Geospatial Information Management summarized the main points of the discussion.

[1] The full-length report is available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts at http://ggim.un.org/ggim_committee.html.

Action taken by the Committee of Experts

13. At its 5th meeting, on 3 August 2018, the Committee of Experts adopted the draft decision (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 8/102).

C. Global geodetic reference frame

14. At its 3rd meeting, on 2 August, the Committee of Experts considered agenda item 5. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on the global geodetic reference frame (E/C.20/2018/6).[1] The Co-Chair of the Subcommittee on Geodesy made an introductory statement.

15. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Saudi Arabia, Germany, Australia, Tonga, India, Finland, the Russian Federation, France, Ethiopia, Mexico, Japan, Norway, New Zealand, Belgium, Sweden, Bahamas, the Republic of Korea, Tuvalu, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Jamaica, Argentina, Indonesia, El Salvador, Uruguay, Burkina Faso and Jordan.

16. Also at the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of ECA.

17. Also at the 3rd meeting, statements were made by the representatives of EuroGeographics, Group on Earth Observations, International Organization for Standardization, the International Association of Geodesy and non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Council or having been invited to participate as observers at the eighth session of the Committee.

18. At the same meeting, the Interregional Adviser on Global Geospatial Information Management summarized the main points of the discussion.

Action taken by the Committee of Experts

19. At its 6th meeting, on 3 August, the Committee of Experts adopted the draft decision, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 8/103).

D. Determination of global fundamental geospatial data themes

20. At its 4th meeting, on 2 August, the Committee of Experts considered agenda item 6. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on the determination of global fundamental geospatial data themes (E/C.20/2018/7),[1] which was introduced on behalf of the Chair of the Working Group on Global Fundamental Geospatial Data Themes.

21. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Spain, India, Mexico, Ethiopia, Singapore, Japan, Denmark, France, Ireland, Suriname, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Fiji, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Canada.

22. Also at the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the European Union.

23. Also at the 4th meeting, a statement was made by the representative of EuroGeographics.

24. At the same meeting, the Interregional Adviser on Global Geospatial Information Management summarized the main points of the discussion.

Action taken by the Committee of Experts

25. At the 6th meeting, on 3 August, statements were made by the representatives of Singapore and Mexico, as well as by the representative of the European Union. Subsequently the Committee of Experts adopted the draft decision, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 8/104).

E. Trends in national institutional arrangements in global geospatial information management

26. At its 4th meeting, on 2 August, the Committee of Experts considered agenda item 7. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on trends in national institutional arrangements in global geospatial information management (E/C.20/2018/8),[1] which was introduced by the Chair of the working group on trends in national institutional arrangements.

27. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of India, Ecuador, Slovenia, Japan, Denmark, Belgium, Austria and Haiti.

28. Also at the same meeting, the Senior Adviser on Global Geospatial Information Management summarized the main points of the discussion.

Action taken by the Committee of Experts

29. At its 6th meeting, on 3 August 2018, statements were made by the representatives of Denmark and Italy. Subsequently, the Committee of Experts adopted the draft decision, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 8/105).

F. Legal and policy frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data

30. At its 4th meeting, on 2 August, the Committee of Experts considered agenda item 8. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on legal and policy frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data (E/C.20/2018/9),[1] which was introduced by the Chair of the working group on legal and policy frameworks for geospatial information management.

31. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of India, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (also on behalf of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe), Sweden, Tonga, Belgium, Saudi Arabia, France, Canada, Japan and Fiji.

32. Also at the same meeting, the Senior Adviser on Global Geospatial Information Management Secretariat summarized the main points of the discussion.

Action taken by the Committee of Experts

33. At its 6th meeting, on 3 August, the Committee of Experts adopted the draft decision (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 8/106).

G. Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community

34. At its 5th meeting, on 3 August, the Committee of Experts considered agenda item 9. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on the implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community (E/C.20/2018/10),[1]

which was introduced by the Chair, technical committee 211, International Organization for Standardization.

35. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of India, Australia, Austria, Germany, Ireland, Sweden, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Singapore, Indonesia and Canada, the observer for the State of Palestine and the representative of the International Hydrographic Organization.

36. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of EuroGeographics, the Open Geospatial Consortium and non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Council or having been invited to participate as observers at the eighth session of the Committee.

37. Also at the 5th meeting, the Senior Adviser on Global Geospatial Information Management summarized the main points of the discussion.

Action taken by the Committee of Experts

38. At its 6th meeting, on 3 August 2018, the Committee of Experts adopted the draft decision, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 8/107).

H. Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information

39. At its 3rd meeting, on 2 August, the Committee of Experts considered agenda item 10. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on the integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information (E/C.20/2018/11),[1] which was jointly introduced by the Co-Chair of the expert group on the integration of statistical and geospatial information and the Chair of the Regional Committee of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for the Americas.

40. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Italy, Côte d'Ivoire, India, Poland (on behalf of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe), Ireland, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Cuba, Egypt, Brazil, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Australia, the Republic of Korea, China, Sweden, Colombia, Barbados, Spain, Dominica, Argentina, Canada, Jordan and El Salvador.

41. Also at the same meeting, a statement was also made by the representative of ECLAC.

42. Also at the 3rd meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the International Organization for Standardization, the Open Geospatial Consortium and non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Council or having been invited to participate as observers at the eighth session of the Committee.

43. At the same meeting, the Interregional Adviser on Global Geospatial Information Management summarized the main points of the discussion.

Action taken by the Committee of Experts

44. At its 6th meeting, on 3 August, a statement was made by the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, the Committee of Experts adopted the draft decision, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 8/108).

I. Application of geospatial information related to land administration and management

45. At its 4th meeting, on 2 August, the Committee of Experts considered agenda item 11. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on the application of geospatial information related to land administration and management (E/C.20/2018/12),[1] which was introduced by the Co-Chair of the expert group on land administration and management.

46. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of India, the Netherlands (on behalf of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe), Barbados, Chile, Sweden, Canada, Suriname and the Republic of Korea.

47. Also at the same meeting, statements was made by the representative of the International Organization for Standardization, and non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Council or having been invited to participate as observers at the eighth session of the Committee.

48. Also at the 4th meeting, the Senior Adviser on Global Geospatial Information Management summarized the main points of the discussion.

Action taken by the Committee of Experts

49. At its 6th meeting, on 3 August 2018, statements were made by the representatives of Germany, Austria, the Netherlands and India. Subsequently, the Committee of Experts adopted the draft decision, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 8/109).

J. Geospatial information for sustainable development

50. At its 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 1 and 2 August, the Committee of Experts considered agenda item 12. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on geospatial information for sustainable development (E/C.20/2018/13),[1] which was introduced by the Co-Chair of the working group on geospatial information.

51. At the same meetings, statements were made by the representatives of Australia, Italy, Mexico, Ireland, Japan, Sweden, India, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Colombia, Denmark and China, as well as by the representative of the European Union.

52. At the 3nd meeting, the Interregional Adviser on Global Geospatial Information Management, summarized the main points of the discussion.

Action taken by the Committee of Experts

53. At the 6th meeting, on 3 August 2018, statements were made by the representatives of Mexico and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, the Committee of Experts adopted the draft decision, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 8/110).

K. Geospatial information and services for disasters

54. At its 4th meeting, on 2 August, the Committee of Experts considered agenda item 13. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on geospatial information and services for disasters (E/C.20/2018/14),[1] which was introduced on behalf of the Co-Chairs of the working group on geospatial information and services for disasters.

55. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Côte d'Ivoire, Jamaica, Sweden, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Mexico, the Netherlands (on behalf of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe), Japan, Dominica, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, France, Italy, Canada and Jordan.

56. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by representatives of the MapAction and Urban and Regional Information Systems Association and non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Council or having been invited to participate as observers at the eighth session of the Committee.

57. Also at the 4th meeting, the Interregional Adviser on Global Geospatial Information Management, summarized the main points of the discussion.

Action taken by the Committee of Experts

58. At its 6th meeting, on 3 August 2018, the Committee of Experts adopted the draft decision (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 8/111).

L. Marine geospatial information

59. At its 4th meeting, on 2 August, the Committee of Experts considered agenda item 14. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on marine geospatial information (E/C.20/2018/15),[1] which was introduced by the Co-Chair of the working group on marine geospatial information.

60. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Italy, Canada, Norway, Jamaica, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, the Netherlands, the United States of America, Denmark, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Burkina Faso, Fiji and Australia.

61. Also at the same meeting, a statement was also made by the representative of the International Hydrographic Organization.

62. Also at the 4th meeting, the Senior Adviser on Global Geospatial Information Management summarized the main points of the discussion.

Action taken by the Committee of Experts

63. At its 6th meeting, on 3 August 2018, the Committee of Experts adopted the draft decision (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 8/112).

M. National geospatial data and information systems

64. At its 1st meeting, on 1 August, the Committee of Experts considered agenda item 15. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on national geospatial data and information systems (E/C.20/2018/16),[1] which was introduced by the Director, Social, Urban, Rural and Resilience Global Practice, World Bank.

65. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Ireland (on behalf of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe), Ethiopia, Barbados, Sweden, Japan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Denmark, Belgium, Argentina, Egypt, Norway, Burkina Faso, Canada, Cameroon, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Indonesia, Colombia, Jordan, China, El Salvador, Suriname, Singapore, Spain, the Republic of Korea, the Dominican Republic, Tuvalu, Fiji, Italy and Ukraine, as well as by the observer for the State of Palestine.

66. Also at the same meeting, statement was also made by the representative ECLAC.

67. Also at the 1st meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association, the Pan American Institute of Geography and History, EuroGeographics, the Open Geospatial Consortium and non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Council or having been invited to participate as observers at the eighth session of the Committee. A statement was also made by a representative of the United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management Academic Network.

68. At the 2nd meeting, on 1 August, the Interregional Adviser on Global Geospatial Information Management summarized the main points of the discussion.

Action taken by the Committee of Experts

69. At its 6th meeting, on 3 August 2018, the Committee of Experts adopted the draft decision (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 8/113).

N. Strengthening collaboration with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

70. At its 5th meeting, on 3 August, the Committee of Experts considered agenda item 16. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on strengthening collaboration with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (E/C.20/2018/17),[1] which was introduced on behalf of the Chair of the Group.

71. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Canada, Belgium, Germany (also on behalf of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe), Japan, Sweden, Australia, Italy, Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

72. Also at the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of ECA.

73. Also at the 5th meeting, the Director of the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat summarized the main points of the discussion.

Action taken by the Committee of Experts

74. At its 6th meeting, on 3 August 2018, the Committee of Experts adopted the draft decision (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 8/114).

O. Review of United Nations activities in geospatial information management

75. At its 5th meeting, on 3 August, the Committee of Experts considered agenda item 17. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on the review of United Nations activities in geospatial information management (E/C.20/2018/18),[1] which was introduced by the Director of the Statistics Division.

76. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Slovenia (on behalf of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Europe), Sweden, Mexico, Italy, Ethiopia (on behalf of UN-GGIM Africa), Malaysia, Australia and Canada.

77. Also at the same meeting, statement was also made by the representative of ECLAC, followed by a statement by the representative of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs.

78. Also at the 5th meeting, the Director of the Statistics Division summarized the main points of the discussion.

Action taken by the Committee of Experts

79. At its 6th meeting, on 3 August 2018, the Committee of Experts adopted the draft decision (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 8/115).

P. Programme management report

80. At its 5th meeting, on 3 August 2018, the Committee of Experts considered agenda item 18. The Director of the Statistics Division gave an oral report on the programme management activities and issues related to the Committee of Experts, including an assessment of the need to set priorities for its many activities that were supported by the Secretariat, and in that context expressed the commitment of the Committee to focusing on the implementation of its activities and to ensuring better coordination and coherence in their implementation in order to enable the Secretariat to further advance the global geospatial information management agenda.

Action taken by the Committee of Experts

81. At its 6th meeting, on 3 August 2018, the Committee of Experts adopted the draft decision (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 8/116).

Chapter III
Provisional agenda and dates for the ninth session of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

82. At its 5th meeting, on 3 August 2018, the Committee of Experts considered agenda item 19. It had before it a note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda for the ninth session of the Committee of Experts (E/C.20/2018/CRP.3). The Director of the Statistics Division made an introductory statement.

83. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Belgium, Sweden, Australia, Denmark, Ireland, the Netherlands, Cameroon, Italy and Burkina Faso.

Action taken by the Committee of Experts

84. At its 5th meeting, on 3 August, the Committee of Experts approved the draft provisional agenda for its ninth session and entrusted the Bureau with streamlining and finalizing it. The Committee also decided to recommend it to the Economic and Social Council for approval (see chap. I, sect. A).

85. At the same meeting, the Committee of Experts decided to recommend to the Council that the ninth session of the Committee be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 7 to 9 August 2019 (see chap. I, sect. A).

Chapter IV
Report of the Committee of Experts on its eighth session

86. At its 5th meeting, on 3 August, the Committee of Experts considered item 20 of its agenda.

87. At the same meeting, the Rapporteur introduced the draft report of the Committee on its eighth session (E/C.20/2018/L.1), together with an informal paper containing draft decisions.

88. Also at the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of Singapore.

Action taken by the Committee of Experts

89. At its 6th meeting, on 3 August 2018, the Committee of Experts adopted the draft report on its eighth session, including the draft decisions contained therein, as orally revised, and entrusted the Rapporteur with streamlining and finalizing it, with the support of the Secretariat.

Chapter V
Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

90. The Committee of Experts held its eighth session from 1 to 3 August 2018 at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The Committee held six meetings (1st to 6th).

B. Election of officers

91. At its 1st meeting, on 1 August, the Committee of Experts elected the following officers by acclamation:

Co-Chairs:
Dorine Burmanje (Netherlands)
Li Pengde (China)
Fernand Guy Isseri (Cameroon)

Rapporteur:
Macarena Pérez Garcia (Chile)

C. Agenda and organization of work

92. At its 1st meeting, on 1 August, the Committee of Experts adopted its provisional agenda, as contained in document E/C.20/2018/1. The agenda read as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Strengthening geospatial information management.
4. Contribution of regional committees and thematic groups to the global geospatial information agenda.
5. Global geodetic reference frame.
6. Determination of global fundamental geospatial data themes.
7. Trends in national institutional arrangements in global geospatial information management.
8. Legal and policy frameworks, including issues related to authoritative data.
9. Implementation and adoption of standards for the global geospatial information community.
10. Integration of geospatial, statistical and other related information.
11. Application of geospatial information related to land administration and management.
12. Geospatial information for sustainable development.
13. Geospatial information and services for disasters.
14. Marine geospatial information.

15. National geospatial data and information systems.

16. Strengthening collaboration with the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

17. Review of United Nations activities in geospatial information management.

18. Programme management report.

19. Provisional agenda and dates for the ninth session of the Committee of Experts.

20. Report of the Committee of Experts on its eighth session.

93. At the same meeting, the Committee of Experts approved the organization of work for the session, as contained in document E/C.20/2018/2.

D. Attendance

94. The session was attended by 428 participants, including 311 representatives from 88 Member States and 5 representatives from 2 non-member States. Also present were 112 representatives of organizations of the United Nations system as well as representatives of intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations. The list of participants is available from the website of the Committee of Experts at http://ggim.un.org/ggim_committee.html.

95. The Committee of Experts also invited the following organizations to participate in the work of the session as observers: AAM Group; Airbus Defence and Space; Association of Geospatial Industries, India; Austrian Academy of Sciences; Bentley; Urban and Regional Information Systems Association; Catapult; Centre for Spatial Law and Policy; Columbia University; ConsultingWhere; DataWorld; DigitalGlobe; Earth-i; e-Geos; Environmental Systems Research Institute; EuroGeographics; Geomares Publishing; Geospatial Media and Communications; GeoThings; Global Resources Management Consultancy; GroundTruth; Group on Earth Observations Secretariat; Hexagon Geospatial Geosystems; IIC Technologies; International Association of Geodesy; Kokusai Kogyo, Japan; KU Leuven; Location International; MapAction; Mapbox; National Autonomous University of Mexico; Open Geospatial Consortium; Oracle; Pan-American Institute of Geography and History; PASCO; Politecnico di Milano; PrecisionHawk; Riegl; Taylor and Francis Group; Ter Haar Geoinnovation; Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi; Tim Trainor Consultant; TomTom; Trimble; University of Maine; University of Melbourne; University of New Brunswick; University of the Republic, Uruguay; University of Twente; and World Geospatial Industry Council.

E. Documentation

96. The documents before the Committee of Experts at its eighth session are available from the website of the Committee of Experts at http://ggim.un.org/ggim_committee.html.

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